

MARSHALL CO. WINS SPELLING CONTEST.

S. S. CONVENTION HAS BEEN A GREAT MEET

Presbyterian Church Crowded At Every Session By Men And Women Inspired By the Great Work Being Done And To Be Done.

The Presbyterian Church is these days a veritable hive swarming with activity. There is not a drone about the place. The product of this industry is a sweetening which is having its effect not only upon our boys and girls but upon our homes and our whole community life. The Queen Bee is Miss Estella Chase who with a quiet enthusiasm and zeal has brought about in Marshall county a renaissance in Bible Study.

The twenty-sixth annual convention of the Marshall county Sunday School Association is being held in Plymouth beginning Thursday afternoon and closing late Saturday afternoon.

The program arranged for is excellent, abounding in stars of the first magnitude.

O. S. Ellis, a farmer of German township, is serving his fourth term as President of the Marshall county Sunday School Association. He is a man of remarkable executive ability and has the county thoroughly organized.

There has been a wonderful awakening of workers all over the world. Mr. Ellis has been keen to keep abreast of the times and has introduced into the Marshall county Association all the progressive movements to be found elsewhere.

Though zealous, Mr. Ellis has kept his poise well and has not allowed himself to get astride of any hobbies. He feels the Sunday School to be one of the most important of the world's institutions because it is the only one which makes its chief business the moral and religious education of the young. The school attends to the intellectual, and the home, well, does it, in this strenuous age, care for much more than the physical!

The guiding theme of this convention, announced in a streamer made by one of the T. T. ladies and stretched across the church where none can fail to see it, is "Self Improvement for Sanctified Service." Service with soul, heart mind and strength, service which involves the spiritual, emotional, mental and physical being.

Those from abroad who came to assist in this convention are Rev. Moerdyke, Mr. Burnie, Prof. Delmarter, Miss Lewis, and Dr. Humble. Rev. Peter Moerdyke, pastor of the Reformed church in South Bend, preached the convention sermon this afternoon and will give an address at the banquet in the evening on "The Spiritual Value of Teacher Training." He aided in a district meeting here two years ago and was so well liked that our people were glad to invite him back. Rev. Moerdyke was for sixteen years a worker in Chicago and is at present in charge of the Teachers' Training class in the Y. M. C. A. in South Bend. He is a strong man and a pleasing speaker.

State Secretary George N. Burnie of Indianapolis is head of the State Sunday School forces of Indiana. He is a young man, still in the thirties. Having had former experience as a business man he is now devoting his entire time to the work of State Secretary. He came four years ago from the Dominion of Canada where he had a broad reputation in the same work.

Prof. J. E. Delmarter is the head of a musical publishing house in Chicago. He was here last year and his singing was a very pleasing innovation. He brings his own books with him and will have charge of the singing throughout the convention. Miss Hazel Lewis is a new worker in Indiana. She is the State Elementary Superintendent. She held the same position in Ohio, from whence she has recently come. A little "inside information" may be interesting here. Pennsylvania is known as the first state in the Union in Sunday School work. Ohio comes second, and Indiana third. Mrs. Baldwin, whom Miss Lewis follows, has been called to Pennsylvania, which is an honor to Indiana. Now that we have Miss Lewis we are confidently expecting to soon stand

second. Her "Story Hour" at 3:45 on tomorrow afternoon, promises to be a most interesting occasion. Miss Lewis, in her modesty expects only teachers, but has said that if any others are there they will not be sent home. On the strength of this many who are "wise" will be "there". The Story feature of Education is a late development in the intellectual world and now many Public Libraries and Institutions of Learning have their regular "Story Hour" open to the public and the profession of "Story Teller" is a new and remunerative occupation.

The coming of Dr. Christopher Humble, of Chicago, is proof of what opportunity will do. It had been the dream of the county authorities to draw one of the biggest guns—an international worker—to this convention. To several letters, they received the same reply, the International Staff could not attend county convention. Their whole time was taken with State and Provincial meetings in the large cities. Finally a letter came saying that Dr. Humble's itinerary was so arranged that, enroute to the east, he could stop in Plymouth from 6 P. M. until 10 P. M. Friday night. He is a very scholarly man and an educator of wide experience. The subject of his address will be "Applied Psychology in the Home and the Sunday School."

The public will be admitted free to this as to all the rest of the convention meetings.

Tables and hot coffee will be provided free to all who wish to bring their lunch on Friday and Saturday.

The Exhibit.

The Exhibit consist of maps of the "Holy Land" drawn by the T. T. classes; and of charts illustrating Bible history "as it unfolds the religious meaning of events."

There are also samples of tests and other teacher training work which was on exhibit at the State Convention in Indianapolis last April where Marshall county stood alone as compared with the other exhibits and received honorable mention.

One picture which is looked at by all is of a men's Bible class of 500 members in Nelsonville, O., a town of 6000 population. There are 341 men in the picture.

On the tables are much literature, useful in the graded work and to the teacher. There is a large missionary exhibit consisting of mottoes and literature.

Friday Afternoon Session.

At one o'clock Miss Laura Caraway, of Warsaw, State Supt. of Temperance talked interestingly on her work.

Supt. Burnie had charge of the Township President's hour which followed. Marshall county has township organizations in all but Green Township. It is this alone which keeps it from being a Banner county. There are 71 Sunday Schools in the county, a decrease of seven since the last convention.

There are certain standards which have been adopted to distinguish the state of Sunday School affairs in the various counties. Counties are Organized, Banner or Front Line counties according as they reach up to these qualifications. There is but one Front Line County so far—Tip-ton.

An Organized County.

1. Must be organized auxiliary to the State Association.
2. Must hold Annual Convention and elect officers.
3. Must have Home Departments by State Association.
4. Must make an offering to State Association.

A Banner County.

1. Be organized auxiliary to the State Association.
2. Hold Annual Convention and elect officers.
3. Have all the townships organized alone or with another.
4. Include a report of every school in the county in its annual report to the State.
5. Pay the State Apportionment in

6. Be operating four or more departments of work recommended by the State.
7. Be represented by delegates at the State Convention.

A "Front Line" County.

1. Must be a banner county.
2. Must have Cradle Rolls in 50 per cent of the schools.
3. Must have Home Departments in 40 per cent of the schools.
4. Must have adult organized classes holding certificates in 30 per cent of the schools.
5. Must have students or classes in Teacher Training work in 20 per cent of the schools.
6. Must increase county enrollment 10 per cent.

Mrs. Ella Davis county Supt., of the House-to House visitation work explained how "Home Visitation will meet Township Needs." She said the needs were; an increase of attendance, a better directed energy, and more active workers. About 25 per cent of the inhabitants of Marshall are enrolled in the Sunday School. How else can we get the other 75 per cent than to go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in. This is a great Missionary work.

Mrs. F. W. Bosworth talked on "The Home Department." As her friends know, Mrs. Bosworth's attention has been chiefly paid to sickness in her family of late. For this reason she said apologetically that her paper was a "hit and miss" one like the popular stipe in an old-fashioned rag carpet. At the close of her excellent address, Mr. Ellis remarked that it surely was a "hit" paper for it hit the nail on the head but he failed to see the "miss" as there seemed to be nothing missing.

The Home department brings a systematic Bible study to invalids, aged shut-ins, mothers kept at home, the army of those necessarily employed on Sunday. It even follows the boys in the Army and Navy. It must not be neglected for if it is some will not be reached who ought to be.

The Conference of County and Township Presidents was in charge of Mrs. M. E. Hume and was very helpful. From first to last Mrs. Hume has been an indefatigable worker and a large share of the credit of making this a wonderfully successful convention is due to her.

The Story Hour.

One of the most pleasing parts of the whole convention was the "Story Hour" in charge of Miss Mary Southworth, assisted by Mrs. Ira Garn and Miss Lewis "and the girls and boys." Only primary teachers were "expected" but the word had gotten out how good this would be and the leaders were embarrassed by the presence of a churchful of eager listeners.

Miss Lewis told a typical story, The story of Elisha and the Shunammite woman, explaining first what the essentials of a story are. Every well built story, she said, must

1. Have a beginning, a note of interest, a key thought.
2. Must array all the characters.
3. Must have the series of events in their proper order.
4. Must have a Climax.
5. Must have an ending. It must not leave the characters away up in the air where the climax takes them.

She said we need not only Scriptural stories, but stories which touched the experience of the child more closely. Christ might have chosen his stories from the Scriptures but he did not. Instead he told of the lost sheep and the Good Samaritan.

Fearing that she might consume more than her share of time, Miss Lewis asked, "How long is the story hour to last?"

"Till seven thirty" responded one of the delighted listeners. It would be impossible for paper and ink to tell the stories as Miss Lewis did and those who did not hear her can only regret their loss. Mrs. Ira Garn was called upon to tell a story and surprised those who did not know of her ability by proving a close second to Miss Lewis. Her auditors could not but feel how fortunate was little Katherine Garn in having such a story teller for her mother.

The story of the lost sheep was dramatized by those who were willing to "become as little children." This was very instructive to those who wished to learn more of this latest feature of education.

Miss Lewis called attention to the fact that in story dramatization with little children, the make believe is very real, the thing itself to their children imagination, and that while they are playing the part they feel the love, or the emotion of the character impersonated. She urged that mothers and teachers study the art of story telling, and study the best stories. As an aid to this she recommended the book, "Stories and Story Telling" by Prof. St. John which can

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PROF. J. E. DELMARTER, OF CHICAGO
Who had charge of the Singing at the County Sunday School Convention.

REBUKE FOR PRESUMPTUOUS GOVERNOR

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED IN STATE SENATE WHICH BROUGHT DESERED RIDICULE ON EXECUTIVE

SET ALL LAUGHING

Would Give Power to Revise Lord's Prayer, Amend Declaration of Independence Repeal Mosaic Law.

The spiciest resolution of the session in the State Legislature was slipped into the deliberations of the upper house last Friday just prior to adjournment by Senator Sexson. The unsuspecting majority went on with its private business, loading up omnibus bills, arranging for a caucus or what not and was not aroused to the situation till it was too late to protest.

The resolution, couched in the most dignified language, set forth that whereas the governor had proposed a change in the organic law of the state, the decision having been reached "between the rising and the setting of the sun" it was useless to await the delay and expense of an election. The resolution concluded:

"Therefore, Be it resolved, that the election proposed on the aforesaid constitution be and is hereby dispensed with and a committee of one be appointed, consisting of the governor of the state of Indiana to proclaim the constitution to be in full force and effect from and after its adoption by the democratic joint caucus, and, "Be it further resolved, That the aforesaid committee be and is hereby instructed to revise the Lord's prayer, amend the declaration of independence repeal the Mosaic law, bring the 39 articles of faith down to date, abridge the sermon on the Mount, and do all other things as will appear in their infinite wisdom and supreme interest in the welfare of the people, to be fitting and proper, and

"Be it further resolved, That all campaign speeches delivered in the year 1908 by the aforesaid governor of the state of Indiana, in which he chastised the republican governor and republican president for interfering with the legislative departments of government, be and are hereby subjected to the executive ban, not to be referred to, published, or recalled within the border of the aforesaid state of Indiana, as long as the executive will may so direct."

When the full meaning of the instrument was learned it was declared rejected by the majority.

To go to North Dakota.

Harold Hahn left Wednesday for North Dakota "where he will spend time with his uncle, George Senour, at Dickinson. Mrs. Daniel Hahn and her son Donald will join him as soon as school is out with the expectation of making their home in the West.

Represented at Shooting Match

Company I of this city sent George Pifer, Earl Deacon, Arthur Menser, William Yazel, Clarence Ewer, and Ivan Carter to Elkhart this morning to enter the Northern Indiana Rifle Association shooting match which is to be held there today and Thursday. The match is open to any high school or police team who cares to take part. Arthur Menser of this city took second place in the match between Company F of South Bend and Company I some time ago.

In Honor of the Day.

The school children all had a vacation today in honor of Washington's Birthday. There is no better way to make them love the Father of his country. L. Tanner had a beautiful flag waving over the front door of his store today.

Five Hundred Club.

Mrs. Frank Tanner entertained the ladies of the Five Hundred Club at her home this afternoon. It was a regular meeting and the ladies played Five Hundred after which they were served refreshments. The Five Hundred Club will not play cards during Lent but will meet regularly and sew, possibly for Charity.

Entertains Philathea Class

Miss Fern Reich entertained the girls of the Philathea class of the Methodist Sunday School at her home on north Michigan street Tuesday evening. Mrs. Duncan, their teacher was absent being on a visit in the East. A spider web furnished a great deal of amusement. It was spun all over the house and at the ends were Hatches. A tree contest was played. Refreshments were served.

Entertains

The 1909 High School Graduating Class of Lapaz held a class reunion at Gideon Logan's home. The class was comprised of fifteen members who were all present but one. Their next meeting will be held July 1, John M.ers.

New Suits Filed.

Francis N. Bottorff vs Lovina Bottorff, appointment of guardian and adjudication of unsoundness of mind. Set for February 27.

William H. Franklin and Liza Franklin vs. William Allison et al to quiet title. Set for April 24.

Sherman Swick by Ira Swick vs. Conn O. Blue for rescission of contract. Set for March 9.

Peter Hill vs. Mack C. Nallans, et al for special performance of contract, damages. Set for March 13.

State of Indiana vs Francis Lemert of Teegarden for unlawful sale of intoxicating liquors.

Suits have been filed and arrests made in the following cases,—State of Indiana vs Alexander Bismark for illegal sale of intoxicating liquor, State of Indiana vs Mike Columbus for illegal sale of intoxicating liquor. State of Indiana vs Alden Foot for grand larceny, and State of Indiana vs Joseph Heffner, for grand larceny.

Enjoying the West.

Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Southworth are having "the time of their lives" out in California. They have been in Los Angeles for more than a month and like it too well to leave yet awhile. Mrs. Southworth has a brother in Los Angeles besides a host of friends who have gone from this part of the country. Mr. and Mrs. Southworth spend a great deal of their time riding over the country in an automobile. They have a good many social engagements, having attended four parties in a week. They have visited the O. E. S. in that city.

VIVIAN LEWIS OF WALNUT IS VICTOR

Many Visitors In City From Seven Counties To Witness First Great Trial of the Kind in Our History. The Judges and Contestants.

It took about four hours to single out the "lone star" in spelling. Starke county lost all of her representatives before the written contest which occurred as soon as half of the contestants were down. Fulton was the only county to go into the written contest with all three representatives in the field. St. Joe county had not lost any, but it only sent two into the fray.

Not one of the ten who took the written contest missed a word and all returned to the oral spelling. It took an hour to spell the next one down, but one by one they tripped over some little letter until but six were left.

The last six were Marie Denman and Vivian Lewis of Marshall, Estel Sheetz, of Fulton, Golda Eaton of Elkhart Robert O'Connell of Kosciusko, and Jennings Gordon of St. Joseph county. It seemed that these six could not be spelled down and they yielded slowly. The interest of the spectators grew more intense, each one hoping and believing that his own would win.

The last two to remain on the floor, Jennings Gordon of St. Joe, and Vivian Lewis of Marshall were given about 150 words apiece. They knew the words perfectly, spelling them with ease. It was rapid firing for a time, neither side being worried. It really looked ridiculous to see seven County Superintendents and three Judges in front before two children who could not be spelled down. They finally decided that the hour was getting late and these two knew all the spelling words in this book and the only way to make a decision was to give them words at random from the stories for dictation which are given in the spelling book but are not regular spelling lessons. Accordingly the name "Hans Christian Andersen" was given to Jennings Gordon. He had never spelled it before and it proved his undoing.

This left Vivian Lewis to carry off the palm of victory, which she did in all modesty, amidst a storm of congratulations.

"Words, Words, Words," said Hamlet in a tone of disgust.

And yet it as nothing but words which packed the Auditorium of the Webster school building this afternoon with an eager audience—and words not even strung together into sentences at that.

There is planted deep in the human breast something which loves to witness a fight. We "will have peace if we have to fight for it" and fight if we have to do it at a peace conference. Whether it be a dog fight, a ball game or a spelling contest, just so it is a fight, it draws.

The three prize winners in the spelling contest held in each of the seven counties of the thirteenth Congressional district met in battle array, twenty-one in all, to decide who should represent the district in the State Contest to be held in Indianapolis March 30. Those competing were:

The contestants were accompanied by "rooters" from the home towns. There were many guests in Plymouth today who had come to witness the victory or defeat of their favorite here.

Polaski.

Ruth Freeman
Minnie Burgess
Earl Vanscoyk

Elkhart County.

Nellie Blood, Middlebury.
Mitchell Charney, Goshen.
Golda Eaton, Goshen.

Fulton County.

Agnes McKee, Rochester.
Earl Beecher, Tiosa.
Estella Sheetz, Akron.

Kosciusko County

Robert O'Connell, Pierceton.
Mildred Bouse, North Webster.
Eva Strauss, Nappanee.

Marshall County.

Marie Denman, Inwood.
Victor Crowl, Argos.

Vivian Lewis, Argos.

St. Joseph County

Jennings Gordon, Nappanee.
Orson Marble, New Carlisle.

Starke

Willie Sweazey,
Helen Knachel,
Esther Carlson.

Fully a hundred and fifty visitors from over the Thirteenth district were in Plymouth today attending the District Spelling contest which began at the Webster school building at one o'clock. About fifty of these took dinner at the Ross house. They were contestants, county superintendents, judges and others. The Plymouth business men kindly made the contestants their guests at the hotel, which was appreciated by the visitors. The matter of choosing judges was a hard one, but the following were finally decided upon because every one believed they would give all a fair deal:

Supt. Randall of Plymouth, Supt. I. S. Hahn of Culver, and Supt. Whitmer of Rochester. All being in the district, it was felt to be a delicate matter to select the proper ones.

All seven of the county superintendents were here and these gentlemen took turns in pronouncing the words. Their names are: Elmer E. Rodgers of Starke, Homer Rogers of Pulaski, R. H. Longfield of St. Joseph, John C. Werner of Fulton, Edson B. Sarker of Kosciusko, E. Weaver of Elkhart, L. E. Steinhach of Marshall.

The auditorium was well filled and fully half those present were grown men—so great is the interest in this school work. Among them were many teachers and trustees. It is noticeable that among the contestants most of the names are foreign, which shows that students of foreign parentage are taking more interest in the language than our own "home grown" students.

The contest opened with twenty contestants, Orson Marble and Mitchell Charney being absent. Lucile Freyberger substituted for Charney. No one went down until ninety words had been pronounced, when Victor Crowl of Walnut township failed on the word "idle," spelling it i-d-e-l.

The winners in Saturday contest will represent the district at the State contest at Indianapolis on March 30.

This was as much a contest of endurance and of nerve as of spelling. There seemed to be no excitable children in the contest. If there were, they soon dropped out. It took a cool head to remember to say "hyphen" or "capital" when they were needed. It took strength to spell constantly for almost four hours, in public and where there was so much at stake.

While the three prize winners were probably the best spellers yet there is a great element of chance in it too. If some of them had not happened to have just the word they did they might have stood much longer and even perhaps have been winners.

Marshall County is the only county to have two among the Winners and Alternates. Marie Denman of Inwood will be an alternate. Miss Marie was so far as known, the youngest contestant present, being but eleven years old. While she did not seem the least bit flustered, but entered into the contest as blithely as if it were some pleasant game, yet she is a small and rather delicate looking child. Marshall County is proud of her and the glory she has helped to bring upon us.

Robert O'Connell, of near Pierceton, Kosciusko county, is a regular Abe Lincoln type of a boy, tall, just at the awkward age, being but fourteen, but distinguished looking. Toward the last many people began to pick him out as the winner. He was very deliberate and brought a smile to the audience by his calm and even slow manner. He was entirely independent however and showed he had that in his head which dictated to him rather than did the expectations of others. Unless we are greatly

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